

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 278578

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO LISBON LONDON
PARIS ALGIERS CAIRO KHARTOUM RABAT TRIPOLI TUNIS DOHA JIDDA
KUWAIT MANAMA SANA TEHRAN TEL AVIV USUN NEWYORK FROM KINSHASA
DTD 24 NOV 75

QTE S E C R E T KINSHASA 10142

DEPARTMENT PASS ALL AF DIPLOMATIC POSTS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, GB, OAU

SUBJECT: GABONESE PRESIDENT AND FONMIN ESTIMATE AT LEAST
25 OAU MEMBERS TATES CAN BE COUNTED ON OR PERSUADED TO
RECOGNIZE FNLA-UNITA REGIME IF PROJECTED OAU SUMMIT FAILS
RESOLVE ANGOLAN CONFLICT. END SUMMARY.

1. IN MEETING WITH AF ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MULCAHY NOVEMBER 23, GABONESE PRESIDENT BONGO AND
FONMIN OKUMBA ESTIMATED THAT MINIMUM OF 25 OAU MEMBER
STATES WOULD RECOGNIZE FNLA-UNITA REGIME IF CURRENT OAU
INJUNCTION AGAINST SUCH RECOGNITION WERE NO LONGER
IN FORCE.

2. BONGO AND OKUMBA EXPRESSED VIEW THAT PROJECTED OAU
SUMMIT WILL BE HELD BUT WILL FAIL TO RESOLVE ANOLAN CONFLICT,
AND THAT IN WAKE SUCH FAILURE EXISITING INJUNCTION WILL

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LOSE ITS FORCE. AT THAT TIME, CONTENDING ANGOLAN REGIMES

WILL BE SEEKING MAXIMUM NUMBER OF RECOGNITIONS FROM COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE THUS FAR REFRAINED FROM SUCH ACTION, AND WILL BE MOBILIZING ALL THEIR FRIENDS TO LOBBY FOR SUCH SUPPORT.

3. WITH HELP OF SUCH FRIENDS AS MOBUTU AND HIMSELF, BONGO SAID, FNLA-UNITA GOVERNMENT COULD ALMOST CERTAINLY COUNT ON WINNING CLEAR MAJORITY OF OAU MEMBERSHIP. PRESIDENT AND FONMIN LISTED FOLLOWING OAU MEMBER STATES AS EITHER ALREADY IN FNLA-UNITA CAMP OR ELSE SUBJECT TO LOBBYING BY HIMSELF AND MOBUTU: BOTSWANA, BURUNDI, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, EGYPT, GABON, GAMBIA, GHANA, IVORY COST, KENYA, LESOTHO, LIBERIA, LIBYA, MALAWI, MAURITANIA, MOROCCO, NIGER, NIGRIA, RWANDA, SENEGAL, SWAZILAND, TOGO, TUNISIA, UGANDA, UPPER VOLTA, AND ZAIRE. IN ADDITON, BONGO THOUGHT HE COULD PROBABLY DELIVER COMOROS AND SEYCHELLES, AND PERHAPS SWING CAMEROON, DAHOMEY, AND ZAMBIA AS WELL.

4. RECALLING HIS TRIPS TO MIDDLE EAST, BONGO ADDED THAT HE COULD USE HIS INFLUENCE TO OBTAIN SUPPORT FOR FNLA-UNITA FROM NUMBER OF NEA STATES AS WELL. IN THIS CATEGORY, HE NAMED BAHRAIN, IRAN, KUWAIT, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, AND YEMEN (NORTH), AND NOTED THAT ISRAEL SHOULD ALSO BE WILLING RECOGNIZE FNLA-UNITA.

5. BONGO AND OKUMBA AGREED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN SUPPORT FOR FNLA-UNITA WAS BOTH EMBARRASSMENT AND POSSIBLE COMPLICATION IN SECURING DESIRED RECOGNITIONS, BUT SEEMED TO FEEL THAT IT COULD BE OVERCOME BY EFFECTIVE USE OF GABONESE AND ZAIRIAN INFLUENCE IN LOBBYING EFFORT.

6. COMMENT: FOREGOING SHOULD BE HANDLED WITH DISCRETION BY INFO ADDRESSES AND SOURCE FULLY PROTECTED.
WALKER UNQTE INGERSOLL

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